



***Kerteszmia*, a new genus of Pachygastrinae from the Neotropical Region (Diptera: Stratiomyidae)**

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Abstract

A new genus and species, *Kerteszmia ecuadora* **gen. nov., sp. nov.**, (Diptera: Stratiomyidae, Pachygastrinae) is described from material from Ecuador (type locality), Venezuela, and Costa Rica. A key to the known Neotropical genera of Pachygastrinae with two or more scutellar spines is presented.

Key words: *Kerteszmia ecuadora*, new species, Ecuador, Venezuela, Costa Rica, taxonomy

Introduction

The stratiomyid subfamily Pachygastrinae is the most diverse in the family, with 176 genera and 561 species (Woodley 2001), known primarily but not exclusively from tropical regions. Fifty-four genera in the subfamily have been recorded from the Neotropical Region, the majority of which have three or fewer species. The subfamily has never been monographed in the region, and the generic limits, particularly of the taxa without scutellar spines, are poorly known. Lindner (1964) published a key to Neotropical genera, but some characters he used are vague and not all genera were included. A subsequent regional treatment for Mexico and Central America (James *et al.* 1980) was based on limited material obtained before large scale Malaise trapping was common. The genus described here is being named so that it can be included in a forthcoming manual of Central American Diptera.

Materials and methods

Morphological terminology follows McAlpine (1981). Specimens examined in this study are from the Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, Santo Domingo, Costa Rica (INBio), the Canadian National Collection, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa, Canada (CNC) and the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. (USNM).

***Kerteszmia* gen. nov.**

Type species, *Kerteszmia ecuadora* **sp. nov.**, by present designation.

Diagnosis. This distinctive genus can be easily separated from other Neotropical pachygastrines that have four scutellar spines by the characteristic antennal flagellum that is kidney-shaped, distinctly higher than long,